

North Thames Region



The Film & Video Institute

www.theiac.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

July—August 2015

Congratulations to:

Colchester FMC

for winning the NTRIAC
2015 Knockout Competition



see pages 10, 11 & 12

John Astin

for being awarded an FACI



see page 3

And your chance to be a Winner — see pages 4—8

NTRIAC CONTACTS:

Chairman: John Howden, 12A Back Road, Writtle, CHELMSFORD, Essex, CM1 3PD
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Chairman's Chat

John Howden joined Colchester Film Makers in 2004 and took over as Chairman in 2005. Now the Club's Competitions Officer, he joined the NTR Council in 2012 & also now serves on the National IAC Council. He is an active film maker, regularly receiving 3 and sometimes 4 Star Awards in BIAFF.



Hello fellow film makers

First and most importantly, heartiest congratulations are due to our Newsletter Editor, John Astin, on being made a Fellow of the IAC. His input to the hobby over the years, his meticulous documentary film making and his always searching questions have been the hallmark of his attention to the craft. He is a fine judge of film always giving one hundred percent to the task whether it is as a BIAFF, regional or club judge and his criticisms are always worth noting. John Astin FACI has a ring to it! Perhaps the NTR Council will have to give him a tee shirt or something!! Seriously the award is thoroughly deserved and John—we salute you!

I have just two other matters to bring to you in this Newsletter.

As you will see elsewhere in this edition, the North Thames Region Festival is once more being held in November. The date is Saturday November 21 and the venue this year is Northaw Village Hall. The AGM will be held during the day, but the MOST important part of the day is our North Thames Annual Film Competition. You will find the entry form in the centre of this Newsletter, the entry fee has actually gone down and you are invited to send your films as soon as you can.

I would urge you to take part and then to come to the day and see the films, all of which will be shown. There are prizes to be won, but best of all the films will be seen by others.

As I say in Colchester Film Makers, why make films if no-one sees them?

We normally have a One Minute Film Competition as well, but this year the Council have decided NOT TO PUT ONE ON.

This leaves us with a slight problem. We need, as a Region, to have a One Minute Film to enter into the Mini Mermaid Competition at the IAC AGM weekend in October. So the solution is this: if you have a One Minute (including title and credits) Film that you would like to be considered, please send your film or films, preferably on DVD, to me:

John Howden,
12A Back Road, Writtle,
Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3PD.

The Council will then make a choice. If you would prefer, let me know where I can see the film on the web, (i.e. YouTube, Vimeo etc.) and please allow me to download the film. If your film is chosen I will need a high quality file for the entry into the national competition.

In summary;

Your entries for the North Thames Film Competition

Your One Minute potential entry into the Mini Mermaid Competition.

See you in Bournemouth at the IAC weekend in October Thursday 22 to Sunday 25.

Happy filming and smart edits

John Howden, LACI

John Astin FACI

- Proposed by Brenda Granshaw and supported by Christine Collins and Penny Love, all FACIs themselves, John Astin was presented with his Fellowship by IAC Chairman Ivor Rose FACI at the 2015 BIAFF Festival in April in Sittingbourne in Kent.
- John has been involved in film-making since starting as a teenager on Standard8 film with a Bell & Howell 605B Sportster turret camera & a Eumig P8m Imperial Projector, and has progressed through Super 8, VHS, Hi8 & SVHS to the digital age, filming now on an SD Card with a Panasonic SD900 camcorder, and editing on an Edius system.
- He has been a member of Potters Bar FilmMakers since around 1980, where he is now the President after serving for around five years as Chairman.
- Along with fellow Club member, John Parkes, he regularly gives shows of club films to local community groups such as U3As, WIs & TGs etc. The “Two Johns” prove very popular, and the shows are always in demand.



John at his editing desk

Since 2010 he has acted every year as a BIAFF Judge for the IAC, and regularly enters films into the Competition with considerable success. In 2015 “Steaming Harz” & “Railway Mania” both were awarded Four Stars.

He agreed to take over the editorship of the North Thames Newsletter at the beginning of 2012, and has been doing the job ever since.

This has involved serving on the NTRIAC Council.

When the Region organised BIAFF at Bedford in 2014, John led the PBFM Projection Team in one of the Saturday mini-cinemas.

- Although concerned about the future of our hobby in the medium-term, John himself is rarely without a video of some sort on the timeline in production.



Did you recognise the parliamentary candidate, now Tory MP, who ousted Vince Cable in Twickenham in the recent General Election?

It was none other than Tania Mathias (*pictured left*), a practising GP, but who played a lead role in one or two of Alan Colegrave’s films, and acted as an excellent Judge for the NTRIAC, most notably at the 2010 & 2011 Triangle Finals. We wish her well.

In his Chairman's Chat in the last Newsletter, our Chairman floated the idea of entering films into our Annual Movie Festival online.

There has not been too much reaction, but what there has has been mixed. There would be a need for more detail and clarification, of course, but Richard Lawrence from Harrow FM wrote in support of the idea for the future:

"Just read the NTR May-June Newsletter and have some comments on John Howden's Chat page.

I am all for electronic entry of films for competitions.

This saves creating Blu-ray and DVD versions and mailing them off.

It would require a host with sufficient storage available for Blu-ray files which are around 4GB for a 20 minute film.

This would be an ideal way for the judges to view the films too. It means they are instantly available to them and can confer without waiting for a review DVD to arrive.

It may not be practical to 'project' the films from the host, such as Vimeo for example, as a fast internet connection is required and a laptop or media player.

However the films could be downloaded to a USB memory stick and played from that.

Many Blu-ray/DVD players can now play movie files stored on a USB stick."

All very interesting, but for 2015, there is no change, with BluRays, DVDs or MiniDV tapes able to be entered in the usual way. (See pages 5—8) Ed.

Our Region has agreed to host the **IAC AGM Weekend in 2016**, and your Council will be busy in the forthcoming months planning an entertaining event.

The chosen venue is the **Maids Head Hotel, Norwich**, and the dates are **Thursday October 20th to Sunday October 23rd 2016**.

Lots of further details to come, of course, but please pencil the dates into your diary now.



To our new member:

Steven Mayfield London

To join the IAC , contact:
IAC, The Film and Video Institute,
McCracken Park,
Great North Road,
Gosforth,
NEWCASTLE ON TYNE NE3 2DT
Tel.: 0191 303 8960
E-Mail: admin@theiac.org.uk

NTRIAC 2015 AGM & Annual Movie Festival

This is the first of four pages in this Newsletter devoted to the NTRIAC Annual Movie Festival, for which our new Competition Officer, Christine Collins FACI, hopes to get a bumper number of entries this year.

Overleaf, on pages 6 & 7, is the Competition Entry Form, and on page 8 you will find the rules & the cash and other prizes to be won.

Not only would your Council like a bumper number of entries this year, but we'd also like a bumper attendance at the event.

We've switched days—it's now going to be on a **Saturday - November 21st 2015**.

We've also switched venues, and this year it's going to be held in **Northaw Village Hall, 5 Northaw Road West, Northaw, Potters Bar, EN6 4NW**.

There is ample car parking space.

A map will be printed in the next Newsletter.

The day will start with tea & coffee on arrival between 10 & 10.30 am, and then there will be 90 minutes of films from 10.30 am until 12 noon, when the AGM will precede the lunch break.

There are two pubs nearby that do lunches, and more eateries in Potters Bar about two miles away.

Alternatively, guests will be welcome to stay in the Hall during the lunch break, should they prefer to bring their own sandwiches etc. There may even be a cup of tea or coffee available!

The afternoon show will start at 2 pm, and probably end around 5 pm, with another included refreshment break mid-afternoon.

The day will end with the announcement of the results and presentation of the prizes.

The cost for the whole day will be £5 if the tickets are bought in advance, or £7 at the door.

Club Secretaries can obtain tickets in advance to sell on to Club members from Penny Love (*contact details on front cover*), from whom any other further information about the day can be obtained.

**So, if you haven't done so already, get those camcorders out, make some films and get them entered!
And put the date, Saturday November 21st, in your diary
NOW!**

Sadly, because entry numbers last time were so low, there will be no One-Minute Competition this year.

NTRIAC Annual Movie Festival – Saturday November 21st 2015
COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Title of film.....

Name of Maker.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Telephone.....E-Mail.....

IAC membership number (if applicable).....

Date of birth (Youth & Junior only).....

Please mark (X) between appropriate brackets:

Details of film: Blu-Ray (plus Std.DVD) () (see rules). DVD ()

Mini DV () Other () *Give details:*.....

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 () 4:3 () Other.....(e.g. Letterbox)

Length of movie.....

Please supply only ONE film per MiniDV/DVD

Lead in: Please ensure a minimum of 5 secs. of black before the start of
the video and preferably NO MENU.

Please indicate: NO Menu () Menu ()

Start of audio: If before the first frame please state timing.....

***Please use these centre pages as the entry form for one entry
and photocopy the form for more than one entry.***

Give brief description of film:

.....
.....
.....

Copyright Clearance: to be strictly observed (see Rule 6)

Audio: MCPS/BPI Licence Nos:.....

External video content used: Permission.....

ENTRY FEES per Video:

IAC Members: Adults: £5 Youth: (18-25yrs) £3 Junior: (under 18yrs) £1

Non-IAC Members: Adults: £10 Youth: £4 Junior: £2

ENCLOSED:

Entry Fee: £..... Return Postage: £.....

TOTAL: £.....

Return Postage is not necessary if arrangements have been made for collection of your video(s) at the event. **However if no arrangements have been made for collection, then return postage must be included otherwise they will not be returned.**

Will entry be collected at Festival? Yes () No ()

CHEQUES PAYABLE to: North Thames Region IAC

Send cheque, entry form and entry to:

Christine Collins FACI. 5, Walnut Grove, Enfield, Middx. EN1 2BL

Closing date for entries is 12 noon, Saturday September 19th 2015

Videos will be returned as soon as practicable. While every care is taken the Region cannot be held responsible for any video which is lost or damaged.

North Thames Region IAC
2015 Annual Movie Festival Competition

Rules

1. The Competition is open to all amateur movie makers residing within the North Thames Region of the IAC.
2. Entries must be made without professional assistance other than the use of recorded music as they may be included in a compilation record of the Festival on DVD. Videos can be on tape, DVD or BluRay. If on BluRay, please also send a "standard" DVD copy for viewing, in case of technical difficulties.
3. **It is a condition of entry that videos which have won a major national or international award are not eligible for the competition.**
- 4.. Only ONE video to each tape/disc will be accepted. The maximum length of any video is limited to 25 minutes.
5. **All copyright material, both audio & visual, must be cleared by the video maker. Detail of of music copyright clearance can be obtained from the IAC Film and Video Institute, McCracken Park, Great North Road, Gosforth, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE23 2DT. Tel.: 0191 303 8960.**
6. The Judges' decisions are final. No correspondence will be entered into with reference to any decision made.
7. You may submit as many entries as you wish, providing they have not been entered before, and have been made in the last 3 years.

Entry Fees per Video:

	<i>IAC Members</i>	<i>Non-IAC Members</i>
<i>Adults:</i>	<i>£5</i>	<i>£10</i>
<i>Youths (18—25 yrs.):</i>	<i>£3</i>	<i>£4</i>
<i>Juniors (under 18 yrs.):</i>	<i>£1</i>	<i>£2</i>

Add return postage if the entry/ies will NOT be collected at the Festival.

Prizes:

Winner: £50 + The NTR Trophy

Second: £30 + The Ganderson Trophy

Third: £20 + The Kodak Trophy

Best Use of Sound: The Leslie Germany Trophy

Best Editing: The Kenneth Seeger Trophy

Certificates for: Very Highly Commended, Highly Commended and Commended

SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE



SATURDAY OCTOBER 3rd

Potters Bar FM Public Shows—2.30 & 8.00 pm

Details to follow

FRIDAY OCTOBER 23rd—SUNDAY 25TH

The Celebrity Weekender, incorporating the IAC AGM, at the Hotel Celebrity, Bournemouth

Details in Film & Video Maker and on the IAC website

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21st

NTRIAC Annual Movie Festival & AGM in Northaw Village Hall, Northaw near Potters Bar, EN6 4 NW.

10 am for 10.30 start. AGM at 12 noon. £5 in advance,

£7 on the day inc. refreshments.

Contact Penny Love (*details on front cover*) for tickets

NTR 100 CLUB

Contact: John Farrer

Tel.: 01462 434948 E-Mail: jffarrer@madasafish.com

Each of the following wins £12:

April 2015

56 Michael Slowe

Finchley FM

90 Eric Jukes

Enfield VM

3 Edward Catton-Orr

Potters Bar FM

107 Martin Page

Wanstead & Woodford MM

May 2015

41 Colin Gass

?

83 Aivar Kaulins

Harrow FM

47 Jean Biskeborn

Harrow FM

35 Eric Jukes

Enfield VM

June 2015

15 Colin Gass

?

104 Judy Long

Harrow FM

76 Andrew Tweed

Potters Bar FM

2 Eric Granshaw

W&W MM

The NTRIAC 2015 Knockout Competition Final

Your editor reports on the day

The Region's Annual Club Knockout Competition Final Day is very often a sunny one, and Saturday May 16th was no exception.

What effect the weather has on the attendance is uncertain, but around four dozen IAC members, including about ten from Clubs not involved in the Final, paid £5 each to get into Leverstock Green Village Hall near Hemel Hempstead for the 2.30 pm start.

The judges were Paul Kittel, TV documentary maker whose new series "Born Naughty?" had launched on Channel 4 just two days earlier, Chris Taylor FACI, the experienced stalwart from South Essex FM, and Ben Simon, the ex-Chairman of the now defunct Borehamwood Club.

Hemel Hempstead's Andrew Pennycook was the genial host, and Hemel Hempstead's programme was shown first, followed by those from Colchester FMC, Harrow FM and Wanstead & Woodford CVC.

Each Club's programme was limited to 30 minutes of screen time. As you can see opposite, three Clubs showed four films, and one Club five.

After each programme, the Judges came to the front to give their thoughts – the Judges took it in turns to lead on each film, with the other two adding brief extra comments.

Their comments were succinct, constructive & erudite, and there seemed to be a great deal of agreement between the judges on the quality or otherwise of each of the films.

There was a twenty minute interval after Colchester's programme, during which time the audience had the chance to chat about the films whilst enjoying the excellent food that Hemel had prepared.

After all four Clubs had shown their programmes & heard the Judges' comments, the Raffle was drawn whilst the Judges went out to discuss which Club's programme best met the criteria of "Most Entertaining Programme".

It didn't take them long—they were back before the Raffle was completed! They certainly had been very much in agreement, and announced unanimously that the Winners were Colchester FMC, whose programme, they said, had offered variety, creativity & technical expertise.

Ron Jones, FACI, the NTRIAC President & Knockout Competition Organiser, presented the Shield to Colchester Chairman Barrie Gibberd & Competitions Officer Mike Saucedo.

Photos on page 12

**Have you noticed an improvement in the quality of the Newsletter paper?
Yes, we've got yet another new printer who took over for the May/June
edition!**

Ed.

NTRIAC 2015 KNOCKOUT COMPETITION FINAL- THE FILMS

Hemel Hempstead Movie Makers

The Hunt for Blue Chaffinch (*Andrew Pennycook*) – an unusual slant on a holiday travelogue, featuring some of the birds to be found on Tenerife.

A Recording Session with Modrupe (*Paul Welton*) – a fly-on-the-wall actuality reportage of a recording session with singer Modupe Obasolu.

Cybervet: Positive Vetting (*Paul Welton*) – a 41 second single joke film – don't blink!

Fruit Cake (*Steve Ballard*) – an amusing, story tale about a fruit cake recipe, with an unexpected sting in the tail!

Canal Turn (*Andrew Pennycook*) – A canal boat owner talks of her enjoyment of living in a boat on the Grand Union Canal.

Colchester Film Makers Club

The Art of Nat (*John Howden*) – Artist Nat Young talks about his techniques, intentions & achievements as an artist.

Ransom Note (*Club Film*) – an ingenious, silent, ransom drama, using multiple split-screen techniques.

Finding Rockey (*Bijunu Padincharayil*) – two children stumble across various animals as they go in search of their lost cat.

Horseplay (*Club Film*) – violent comic discord between husband & wife over a misunderstanding – or was it?!

Harrow Film Makers

Smoke Alarm Advert (*Dave Smith*) – a one-minute comedy highlighting possible problems that might arise from trying to reduce the electricity bill!

To Docklands And Beyond (*Ian Brown*) – A trip down the Thames from London on the last remaining sea-going paddle-steamer "Waverley".

Where There's A Will (*HFM Production*) – A drama about the execution of a will, and the duplicity of some of the participants.

Fund Raising (*Dave Smith*) – The Watford Peace Hospice Fun Run & Obstacle Course – "Push For Peace".

Wanstead & Woodford Movie Makers

Night AT The Tower (*Fred Gillan*) – A montage of shots of the Tower Bridge area at night, some speeded up, and all set to music with a beat.

St. Clement Danes (*Mike Hobbs*) – a straightforward, factual documentary about St. Clement Dane, the RAF Church in the Strand.

Hit Man (*Mike Hobbs*) – a Club comedy featuring marital discord, and how a wife's attempt to get rid of her husband misfires.

Life on the Trams (*Brenda Granshaw*) – After a quick look at the attractions of the Isle of Man, the film focuses on the horse-drawn tramway.

NTRIAC 2015 KNOCKOUT COMPETITION FINAL



Leverstock Green Village Hall



Judges: (l>r) Paul Kittel, Ben Simon & Chris Taylor



The KnockOut Competition Shield



Queuing up for the interval refreshments



The audience prepares to watch the films



Colchester FMC's Barrie Gibberd (Chairman) & Mike Saucedo (Competition Officer) accept the Shield from NTRIAC President & Competition Organiser, Ron Jones (r)

Deadline for the next issue is Sunday August 2nd
Please send all contributions by e-mail to:
john.astin1@ntlworld.com